

SERVICE SCENE

Burmese Military Mission Honored

By RUTH DEAN

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Two brothers stood in the receiving line at a Burmese Embassy party last night. One was the Ambassador and the other was one of the three honor guests for whom the party was given.

Burmese Ambassador and Mrs. On Sein gave the small evening reception in honor of a visiting military mission from their country. There was no doubt that one of the visitors was the Ambassador's younger brother, Col. Tun Sein, as guests going through the receiving line remarked on their resemblance.

Also in the receiving line was the head of the military mission, Col. Maung Maung, a dapper and pleasant Army officer who is director of military training for the Burmese Armed Forces. Although not in the line, the third member of the mission, Maj. Maung Maung Ka, was among the party guests.

The mission arrived in the United States three weeks ago at the invitation of the Department of Defense to inspect armed forces training installations.

The group has been going at a fast clip ever since. Under the guidance of their tour director, Lt. Col. Paul Lawson of the United States Army, they have visited installations up and down the West Coast, Texas and Georgia before coming here.

Side Trips Arranged

But even their week in Washington is full of side trips. Yesterday it was the Aberdeen Proving Grounds at the nearby Maryland ordnance depot, and today they're off to Norfolk to visit the Armed Forces Staff College. Before they take off for home on July 23, they'll tour some industries in New York State.

Col. Sein said it was the first time he'd seen his brother in nearly a year. The last time they were together was in Rangoon, Burma's capital, when the Ambassador stopped there en route to the United States from his former assignment as Burmese Ambassador to Pakistan. At that time, the Ambassador paid the home visit principally to see his son, Terence, initiated as a temporary novice in the Buddhist priesthood, a custom followed by all young Burmese boys. After the brief noviceship—three days—Terence accompanied his parents here. Last month he finished Gordon Junior High School and in the fall enters Maret School, said his father.

The military guests of honor found many familiar faces among the guests, most of

whom were military attaches from Southeast Asian countries and Pentagon and State Department officials associated with Southeast Asian affairs.

Likes Tropics

Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs and Mrs. J. Graham Parsons were the ranking guests. Also present was the United States Ambassador to Burma William P. Snow, who is on home leave. Mr. Snow, who is en route to his native Maine to see some of his family before he again joins Mrs. Snow and four of their six children in Rangoon again, said he found the tropics much to his liking. His previous assignments had been in South American capitals, some in high plateau regions.

Saying "hello" again to Ambassador Snow were CIA Deputy Director and Mrs. Charles P. Cabell, who visited the Snows in Rangoon, when they were there last year.

It was also a reunion for Gen. and Mrs. Graves B. Erskine and Col. Sein. On two previous trips to the Orient which included Rangoon as a stop, Col. Sein entertained the Erskines. Yesterday was a busy day for the former Marine Corps general and his wife. Before coming to the Burmese party the Erskines had been hosts themselves at a small farewell party in their home for the departing Iraq Armed Forces Attache and Mrs. Hassan Nakib.

The Indian Military and Naval Attache and Mrs. Batra, the latter a vision in a navy blue chiffon sari, were at the party. Also, the Burmese Military Attache, Col. Maung Lwin; the Japanese Defense Attache and Mrs. Tanaka, the Thai Military Attache and Mme. Diskul, the Indonesian Military Attache, Col. Soerjosoerarmo, and the Israeli Military Attache and Mrs. Prihar.

There from the Pentagon were Rear Admiral, Edward O'Donnell from the International Security Affairs office, with Mrs. O'Donnell, and Lt. Col. Francis T. Devlin and Lt. Col. William R. Farquhar from the foreign liaison office.